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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION FROM  
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Hungary

SUBJECT Sociological - Sports  
Military - Paramilitary

HOW PUBLISHED Weekly periodical

WHERE PUBLISHED Budapest

DATE PUBLISHED 1 Mar 1951

LANGUAGE Hungarian

DATE OF  
INFORMATION 1951

DATE DIST. /7 Jul 1951

NO. OF PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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SOURCE Tanacsok, Vol II, No 5, 1951.REORGANIZATION OF SPORTS ACTIVITIES IN HUNGARY

Tibor Beres

The decree setting up the local Physical Culture and Sports Committees establishes an organ designed to direct and supervise the activities of all health-education and sport organizations, including the sports activities of children, students, and youths not yet of military age.

The OTSB (National Physical Culture and Sports Committee) functions immediately under the Council of Ministers, while the county, district, and municipal committees function as departments of the corresponding councils. The local committees are under the administrative supervision of the county, district, and municipal committees, but their professional work is directed by the OTSB.

Lower and intermediate organs are doubly responsible, therefore. They have to account for their work both to the local councils and to the OTSB.

The local Physical Culture and Sports Committees direct physical culture and sports activities, conduct the training of sports cadres, supervise the work of various sports organizations, and lead and supervise rural sports work.

The Physical Culture and Sports Committees supervise the execution of directives of the OTSB issued to local general, secondary, and higher educational institutions. They organize the sports activities of the masses. Their jurisdiction extends to health matters, sports events, and propaganda in connection with sports. They supervise the disbursement of funds and see to it that sportsmen participate in political and social life.

The chairman of the local council checks the work of the Physical Culture and Sports Committee, audits its accounts, examines its work, and issues directives and orders relating to the work.

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The members of the Physical Culture and Sports Committee are appointed by the executive committee of the local councils. They are selected from among the leaders of organizations concerned with sports activities: DISZ (Society of Democratic Youth), SZOT (National Council of Trade Unions), Army, police, and from among the office employees of the Physical Culture and Sports Committee.

The establishment of the new organ changes the character of sports radically. The task of the committee includes putting sports on a mass basis, mobilizing sportsmen, and enlightening them. It also includes preparing individuals for better work and the defense of the country through sports. All sports events and festivals are to be used for political education. Since sports and physical culture are a tool of education, the committees should keep in close contact with educational, health, and propaganda organs.

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